

HOUSE BILL 962

By Lundberg

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203, relative to involvement with illegal animal fights.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203(a), is amended by adding a new subdivision as follows:

(5) Knowingly cause a person under eighteen (18) years of age to attend an animal fight.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203(c)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(2) A first offense involving a cock under subdivisions (a)(1)–(3) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(3) A second or subsequent conviction involving a cock under subdivisions (a)(1)–(3) is a Class E felony.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203(d), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(1) A violation of subdivision (a)(4) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(2) A violation of subdivision (a)(5) is a Class A misdemeanor. Notwithstanding § 40-35-111(e)(1), the fine for a violation of subdivision (a)(5) shall be not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-14-203(e), is amended by adding the following language “, as long as it does not violate any other part of this section or federal law” immediately after the language “is legal”.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.